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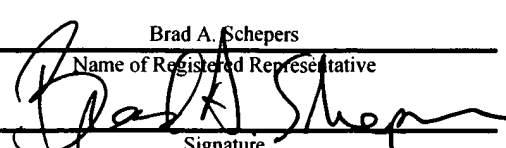
In re patent application of:)	Before the Examiner:
Russell Powers)	Unassigned
)	
Serial No. 10/634,206)	Group Art Unit 3738
)	
Filed August 5, 2003)	Our Ref.: 4002-3357/PC934.00
)	
SURGICAL KIT AND METHOD FOR)	January 5, 2005
PROVIDING STERILIZED)	
EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN SPINAL)	
SURGERY)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure embodied in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring to the attention of the Examiner the items of information listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Citation (IDS) form. Copies of the U.S. patent references listed on the IDS form are not being provided herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d). Copies of the foreign patent references are provided when applicable.

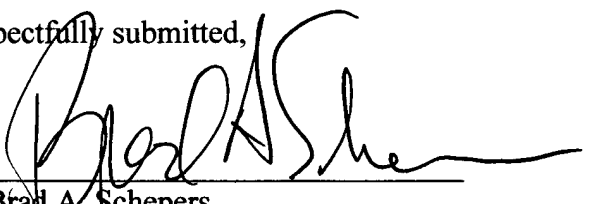
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(Date of Deposit)	
Brad A. Schepers	
Name of Registered Representative	
	
Signature	

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is or is considered to be prior art or material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

This Statement is being submitted under 37 CFR 1.97(b) before the occurrence of one or more of the following: (a) receipt of a First Office Action on the merits, (b) passage of three (3) months from the application filing date, or (c) passage of three (3) months from the date entry of the national stage. Accordingly, it is believed that no fee is due. However, should any fee be required, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad A. Schepers", written over a horizontal line.

Brad A. Schepers

Reg. No. 45,431

Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty,

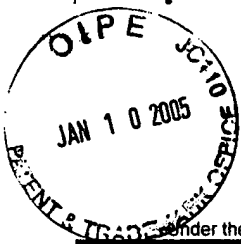
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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/634,206
	Filing Date	August 5, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Russell Powers
	Art Unit	3738
	Examiner Name	Unassigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	4002-3357/PC934.00

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or individual name	Brad A. Schepers, Reg. No. 45,431 Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty, McNett & Henry LLP
Signature	
Date	January 5, 2005

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Typed or printed name	Brad A. Schepers		
Signature		Date	January 5, 2005

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Substitute for form 1449A PTO

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1

of

1

Attorney Docket Number

Complete if Known

Application Number

10/634,206

Filing Date

August 5, 2003

First Named Inventor

Russell Powers

Group Art Unit

3738

Examiner Name

Unassigned

Attorney Docket Number

4002-3357/PC934.00

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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